

NOV 09 2000  
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
JC68

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below, next to my name.

# SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR GENERATING DECISION TREES

  x   is attached hereto.  
 was filed on April 21, 2000 as  
 United States Application Number 09/553,956,  
 or PCT International Application Number \_\_\_\_\_,  
 and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (if applicable)

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 (copy attached).

<u>Prior Foreign Application(s)</u>			<u>Priority Claimed</u>	
<u>(Number)</u>	<u>(Country)</u>	<u>(Day/Month/Year Filed)</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
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<u>60/130,636</u>	<u>April 23, 1999</u>
(Application Number)	(Filing Date)
<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
(Application Number)	(Filing Date)

I hereby claim benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 (copy attached) which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Application Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Filing Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Status - patented, pending, abandoned)

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(Filing Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Status - patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of Sole/First Inventor (given name, family name) Thomas A. Runkler

Inventor's Signature Thomas A. Runkler Date 10/24/00

Residence Munich, Germany Citizenship Germany  
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Full Name of Second Joint Inventor (given name, family name) Shounak Roychowdhury

Inventor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Residence Foster City, California Citizenship India  
(City, State) (Country)

Post Office Address 790 Edgewater Boulevard, Foster City, California 94404

Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56  
Duty to Disclose Information Material to Patentability



(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

(1) Prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and

(2) The closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

(1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or

(2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:

(i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or

(ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

(1) Each inventor named in the application;

(2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and

(3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.

## A circular stamp from the Office of Intellectual Property (OIP). The text "OIP" is at the top, "JC68" is at the top right, "OFFICE" is on the right, "PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK" is at the bottom, and "NOV 09 2000" is in the center.

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Full Name of Sole/First Inventor (given name, family name) Thomas A. Runkler

Inventor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Residence Munich, Germany Citizenship Germany  
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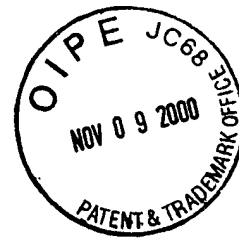
Full Name of Second Joint Inventor (given name, family name) Shounak Roychowdhury

Inventor's Signature  Date Oct 17 2000

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(City, State) (Country)

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